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## American Association of Museums

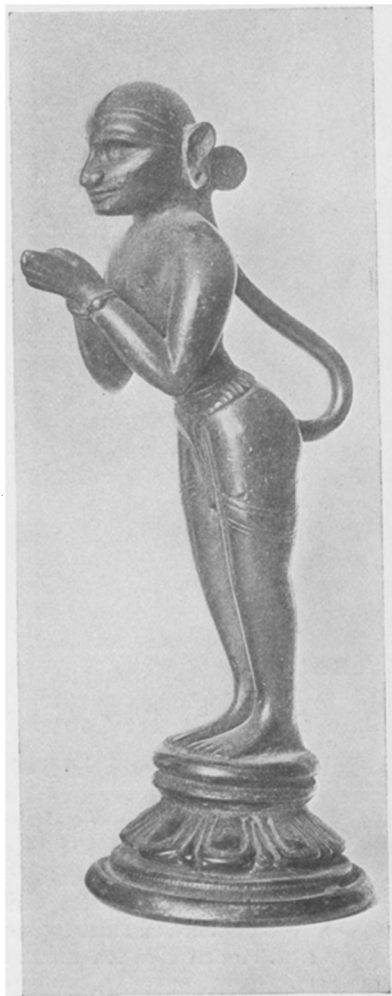
*Meeting at Springfield, Mass., May 20 to 22*

Fig. 20. Hanuman South India  
Ross-Coomaraswamy Collection

third image, in copper (Fig. 20) represents Hanuman, the monkey leader and faithful servant and ally of Rama in the war for the recovery of Sita, related in the *Ramayana*: Hanuman is standing, with folded hands, in an attitude of worship or service. Of other images the collection includes a small Kala-Bhairava (Siva), several of Vishnu (Narayana) of about the fifteenth century, several of the infant Krishna (Santana Gopala) crawling or dancing with a pat of stolen butter, and one in brass of a bearded *rishi* seated on a tortoise pedestal. Amongst the other Hindu metal work are excellent examples of a toy horse and deer, archaic in aspect but not early in date, and various vessels used in ritual, including a fine *arghya patra* — an elongated copper bowl, pointed at one end and rounded at the other, for preparing the holy water used in the daily office.

The collection also includes a Jaina image of Parsvanatha, in brass, inscribed and dated equivalent to A. D. 1329, and one of the Jaina goddess Ambika, inscribed and dated equivalent to A. D. 1490.

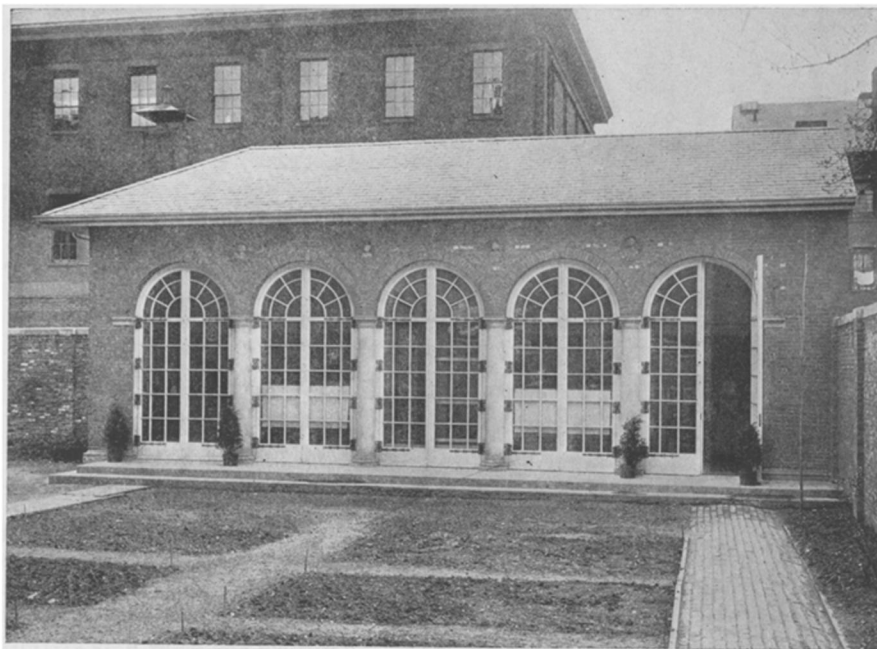
A. K. C.

TOPICS relating to the war occupied much of the attention of the associated museums at their meeting just past. The Council of the organization was directed to drop from the roll any member whose loyalty it had reason to question. The Council was further directed to memorialize the Government at Washington recommending measures for the collection and preservation of relics and other material commemorating the war. On the first evening of the meeting Mr. J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., gave an illustrated talk describing and recapitulating a series on "France and Her People" just given by him at the Ayer Training Camp. A paper later contributed by Mrs. Richard C. Cabot suggested utilizing museum material to inform our soldiers about lands across the sea. An offer from friends to defray the cost of an illustrated leaflet for this purpose was accepted by the Association and the Council directed to prepare and distribute a series of such leaflets so far as results warranted and funds were provided.

The Association took action on several reports from special committees appointed at the last meeting. The Council was directed to recommend to the Carnegie Institution at Washington the preparation through the Association of a bibliography of books and articles relating to museums, and its eventual publication on behalf of the museums of the world. The Council was further directed to arrange for the division of the membership of the Association into regional sections, which should hold meetings in the autumn and send delegates to the general meeting in the spring. It was hoped by this means to arrange for the more active coöperation of museums on the Pacific slope, in the Gulf States, and perhaps in other sections. The Council was authorized to obtain subscriptions among museums of art for lists of the prices obtained at the more important auction sales of fine art in the country and to issue the lists to subscribers in the form of manifolded copies. Material gathered by a Committee on Instruction in Museum Work was placed in the hands of the Secretary, who was instructed to file any information he might receive regarding candidates for museum employment in a form to be consulted by museums having positions to offer.

The Constitution of the Association has hitherto restricted the voting privilege held by individuals to those "actively engaged in the work of museums." At the last meeting an amendment was offered extending the privilege to all "interested in" museum work. The present meeting emphatically reaffirmed the professional character of the organization. The proposed amendment was decisively defeated and a substitute passed giving the vote to those occupying any positions of responsibility in museums and to other specified classes at the discretion of the Council.

The Proceedings of the Association have hitherto been published in an annual volume. Last year a



*The Children's Art Centre, No. 36 Rutland Street*

four-page News Letter was authorized, to consist of nine monthly issues. The Association at the present meeting voted to consolidate these two publications in a periodical to be issued eight times a year under the title of "Museum Work; including the Proceedings of the American Association of Museums." The Association by this action provides itself with a medium of current communication among its members and with the public. G.



*Interior*

### **The Children's Art Centre**

THE Children's Art Centre of the Settlements Museum Association was opened on Tuesday, April 30. The building is of fire-proof construction and is placed at the western end of the garden adjoining the South End Music School, 36 Rutland Street. The brick wall enclosing the Children's Art Centre, the Music School, and their two gardens, was given by Mrs. Robert Dawson Evans shortly before her death.

For some years past the Museum has lent to the Settlements Museum Association collections of prints interesting to children. With the opening of the Children's Art Centre this service may be extended so as to include other objects.

While the Museum of Fine Arts is in no way responsible for the Children's Art Centre, it hopes and believes that the Centre will perform an important service for the community, and extends its best wishes to the new undertaking. F. C.

MRS. ISABELLA DOHERTY, for nearly thirty years assistant with various duties in the galleries of the Museum, died on May 13. Mrs. Doherty will be remembered at the Museum for her unremitting faithfulness to her daily tasks and for her quiet and friendly disposition. A widow from early life, she was an example of motherly devotion to the children of whom she was until lately the sole support.

ENLISTMENTS FROM THE MUSEUM. Joseph Ryan, Superintendent's Assistant, is at the Naval Training Camp, Charleston, S. C.; Foster E. Smith, Engineer, at Camp Devens, in the 301st Infantry.